demand of the displaced persons, during the President's Rule?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAMLAL RAHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) In view of (a) above the question does not arise.

Prior information with intelligence agencies on dropping of Arms

709. SHRI RATNA BAHADUR RAI:
SHRIMATI CHANDRA KALA PANDEY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the intelligence agencies had any prior information about the possibility of parachute dropping of arms;

(b) if so, whether such information was duly passed on to the respective State Governments on an urgent basis;

(c) what are the reasons that the Government of West Bengal received such information 14 days after the incident;

(d) whether the investigation by the Central Investigating Agencies have proved that involvement of Anand Margis in the case; and

(e) whether Government is prepared to concede the vulnerability in the light of the arms droppings and if not, the justification thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SYED SIBTE RAZI): (a) to (c) The intelligence agencies had prior information about the possibility of arms being unloaded by a small plane after landing at an abondoned airfield in Dhanbad area of Bihar for an insurgent group of that area. The Government of Bihar was sensitised by the concerned intelligence agency. Although the information pertained to Bihar, the information was also shared with the West Bengal Govt, as a matter of additional precaution. The letters containing the information being of classified nature, were despatched as per the existing instructions on the subject.

(d) Investigations so far conducted by the Central Bureau of Investigation indicate the involvement of Anand Margis in the case. CBI are further investigating the matter to find out whether Anand Margis were the ultimate and end users of the weapons or whether they were to be a conduit for some other group.

(e) Central Bureau of Investigation, who are investigating the matter, are looking into all aspects of it, their report is awaited by the Government.

Crimes against Women

710. SHRI S. AUSTIN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of women raped and molested during 1993,1994,1995 and in 1996 till-date, State-wise and Union Territory-wise;

(b) the steps taken to check the crimes against women;

(c) the number of persons arrested in this regard State-wise and Union Territory-wise; and

(d) the action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (PROF. M. KAMSON): (a) The available information on the incidents of molestation and rape during the relevant period is given in the Annexure No. I. *[See* Appendix 176, Annexure No. 35]

(b) The registration, investigation, detection and prevention of crimes against women is the responsibility of the State Governments / Union Territory Administrations. However, the Government of India has initiated a number of measures to check such crimes. Apart from legislative changes in the relevant Acts, instructions/guidelines have been issued from time to time to the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations to effectively enforce legislation relating to crimes against women. Besides, the media is being used to project women in positive terms. Awareness generation camps are being organised. The Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas (DWACRA) Programme and the Female Literacy Programme are some fo the other steps being taken to improve the status of women.